

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) Packing comprising braiding yarns, each of said braiding yarns including a plurality of longitudinally arranged reinforcing fiber yarns and expanded graphite integrally bonded to said reinforcing fiber yarns with adhesive, a plurality of said braiding yarns being put together to form a core member, and said core member being covered, at the outer periphery thereof, with a braided body of said braiding yarns.
2. (Currently Amended) A packing, comprising:
a plurality of internally reinforced braiding yarns, each of said internally reinforced braiding yarns including a plurality of longitudinally arranged, spaced parallel reinforcing fiber yarns each having a surface which surface includes an adhesive, said internally reinforced braiding yarns being held together by expanded graphite integrally bonded to and surrounding each of said reinforcing fiber yarns with said adhesive, and said plurality of said internally reinforced braiding yarns being braided together to produce a packing string.
3. (Previously presented) Packing comprising braiding yarns, each of said braiding yarns including a plurality of longitudinally arranged reinforcing fiber yarns and expanded graphite integrally bonded to said reinforcing fiber yarns with adhesives, and a plurality of said braiding yarns being twisted together.

4. (Previously presented) The packing according to claim 1, wherein the expanded graphite is a powder having a vermiform shape.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein each of the braiding yarns includes a plurality of longitudinally arranged reinforcing fiber yarns and expanded graphite integrally bonded to at least one side of said reinforcing fiber yarns with adhesive, and each said braiding yarn being twisted before being bundled together with other braiding yarns to form a packing.

7. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn is made of at least one material selected from the group of organic fibers consisting of cotton fibers, rayon fibers, phenol fibers, aramid fibers, PBI fibers, PTEF fibers, PPS fibers and PEEK fibers.

8. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn is made of at least one material selected from the group of inorganic fibers consisting of glass fibers, carbon fibers and ceramic fibers.

9. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn is made of at least one material selected from the group of metallic line members consisting of stainless steel, Inconel and Monel metal.

10. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn comprises a composite fiber yarn made of (i) at least one material selected from the group of organic fibers consisting of cotton fibers, rayon fibers, phenol fibers, aramid fibers, PBI fibers, PTEF fibers, PPS fibers and

PEEK fibers and (ii) at least one material selected from the group of inorganic fibers consisting of glass fibers, carbon fibers and ceramic fibers and at least one material selected from the group of metallic line members consisting of stainless steel, Inconel and Monel metal.

11. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn comprises

a fiber yarn covered with short fibers.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn comprises a yarn obtained by twisting together organic fibers and inorganic fibers.

14. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn is a yarn obtained by knitting together organic fibers and inorganic fibers.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) Packing comprising braiding yarns, each of said braiding yarns including at least one longitudinally arranged reinforcing fiber yarn and expanded graphite integrally bonded to said at least one reinforcing fiber yarn with adhesive, and

a plurality of said braiding yarns being braided together.

17. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 6, wherein the expanded graphite is a powder having a vermiciform shape.

18. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 6, wherein the expanded graphite is in the form of a sheet having a narrow width.

19. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn comprises

a composite fiber yarn made of at least one material selected from the group of inorganic fibers consisting of glass fibers, carbon fibers and ceramic fibers, and the group of metallic line members consisting of stainless steel, Inconel and Monel metal,

said composite fiber yarn being covered at the surface thereof with composite short fibers made of at least one material selected from the group of organic fibers.

20. (Previously presented) Packing according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing fiber yarn comprises a yarn obtained by twisting together organic fibers and metallic line members.

Claims 21 - 31 (Cancelled)